

## Meet Jeremy Frey

Jeremy Frey is an artist who specializes in ash and sweetgrass basketry and porcupine quillwork. Jeremy has been making art since he was a young boy. He began with drawing and woodcarving, and eventually, learned basketmaking from his mother, Gal Frey, who in turn had apprenticed with master Passamaquoddy basketmaker Sylvia Gabriel.

Jeremy begins his basketmaking process in the forest: he selects a perfect, straight ash tree, cuts it down and carries it out of the woods. With the butt end of an axe head, he pounds the log to loosen the tree's growth rings, allowing him to remove long strips of ash that he will later clean and split into thinner pieces for weaving.

At this young age, Jeremy has achieved a level of basketmaking skill beyond his years. Today, his baskets are in the collection of the National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution; George Gustav Heye Center, New York City; and a number of other prominent galleries and shops around Maine.

